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PROMOTION AND PROTECTION OF THE RIGHTS OF CHILDREN

# Status of the Convention on the Rights of the Child

## Report of the Secretary-General

1. The General Assembly, by its resolution 44/25 of 20 November 1989, adopted the Convention on the Rights of the Child. The Convention was opened for signature in New York on 26 January 1990 and entered into force on 2 September 1990, the thirtieth day after the deposit with the Secretary-General of the twentieth instrument of ratification or accession.

2. By its resolution 49/211 of 23 December 1994, the General Assembly urged all States that had not done so to sign, ratify or accede to the Convention as a matter of priority, with a view to reaching universal ratification by 1995; emphasized the importance of the full implementation by States parties of the provisions of the Convention; approved the recommendation to increase to three the number of annual sessions of the Committee as from 1995, as well as the number of sessions of the pre-sessional working group; and requested the Secretary-General to submit to the Assembly at its fifty-first session a report on the status of the Convention.

3. By its resolution 50/153 of 21 December 1995, the General Assembly called upon States parties to ensure that the education of the child shall be carried out in accordance with article 29 of the Convention, and also called upon States parties, in accordance with their obligations under article 42, to make the principles and provisions of the Convention widely known to adults and children alike.

4. The Commission on Human Rights, at its fifty-second session, adopted resolution 1996/85 of 24 April 1996, in which it took note with appreciation of the constructive role of the Committee on the Rights of the Child in creating awareness of the principles and provisions of the Convention and in providing recommendations to States parties on its implementation; requested bodies and

organs of the United Nations and encouraged States parties, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, the media and the community at large to intensify their efforts to disseminate information on the Convention, promote understanding of it and assist States parties in its implementation; and recommended that special rapporteurs, special representatives and working group of the Commission and its Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities take into account the work of the Committee on the Rights of the Child; requested the working groups on draft optional protocols to the Convention respectively on the involvement of children in armed conflicts and on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography to meet each for a period of two weeks, or less if possible, prior to the fifty-third session of the Commission to pursue their mandates; urged Governments to continue actively to seek comprehensive solutions to the problems of street children; urged all States to eliminate all forms of discrimination against the girl child; urged Governments to pay particular attention to the situation of refugee and internally displaced children; and requested the Secretary-General to submit a report on the status of the Convention to the Commission at its fifty-third session.

5. As at 15 August 1996, the Convention had been ratified or acceded to by 187 States. In addition, two States had signed the Convention. The list of States that have signed, ratified or acceded to the Convention, as well as the dates of their signature, ratification or accession, is contained in the annex to the present report.

6. The fifth meeting of the States parties to the Convention was convened by the Secretary-General at United Nations Headquarters on 21 February 1995 for the purpose of electing five members of the Committee to replace those whose terms were due to expire. The following experts were elected or re-elected for the period 1995-1999:

Mrs. Akila Belembaogo (Burkina Faso)

Mr. Thomas Hammarberg (Sweden)

Mrs. Judith Karp (Israel)

Mr. Youri Kolosov (Russian Federation)

Ms. Sandra Prunella Mason (Barbados).

7. On 12 December 1995, the Conference of States Parties to the Convention adopted an amendment to article 43 increasing to 18 experts the membership of the Committee. This amendment, which was further approved by the General Assembly in its resolution 50/155 of 21 December 1995, will enter into force once it has been accepted by a two-thirds majority of States parties.

8. The Committee on the Rights of the Child held its seventh, eighth, ninth, tenth, eleventh and twelfth sessions at the United Nations Office at Geneva from 26 September to 14 October 1994, 9 to 27 January 1995, 22 May to 9 June 1995, 30 October to 17 November 1995, 8 to 26 January 1996 and 20 May to 7 June 1996 respectively. In accordance with article 44, paragraph 5, of the Convention,

the Committee submitted its biennial report, covering the activities of the Committee at its sixth to eleventh sessions, to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session. 1/

Notes

1/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-first Session, Supplement No. 41 (A/51/41).

ANNEX

States which have signed, ratified or acceded to the Convention on the Rights of the Child as at 15 August 1996 (187)

| State | Date of signature | Date of receipt of instrument of ratification/ accession a/ | Date of entry into force |
|---|---|---|---|
| Afghanistan | 27 September 1990 | 28 March 1994 | 27 April 1994 |
| Albania | 26 January 1990 | 27 February 1992 | 28 March 1992 |
| Algeria | 26 January 1990 | 16 April 1993 | 16 May 1993 |
| Andorra | 2 October 1995 | 2 January 1996 | 1 February 1996 |
| Angola | 14 February 1990 | 5 December 1990 | 4 January 1991 |
| Antigua and Barbuda | 12 March 1991 | 5 October 1993 | 4 November 1993 |
| Argentina | 29 June 1990 | 4 December 1990 | 3 January 1991 |
| Armenia | | 23 June 1993 a/ | 22 July 1993 |
| Australia | 22 August 1990 | 17 December 1990 | 16 January 1991 |
| Austria | 26 January 1990 | 6 August 1992 | 5 September 1992 |
| Azerbaijan | | 13 August 1992 a/ | 12 September 1992 |
| Bahamas | 30 October 1990 | 20 February 1991 | 22 March 1991 |
| Bahrain | | 13 February 1992 a/ | 14 March 1992 |
| Bangladesh | 26 January 1990 | 3 August 1990 | 2 September 1990 |
| Barbados | 19 April 1990 | 9 October 1990 | 8 November 1990 |
| Belarus | 26 January 1990 | 1 October 1990 | 31 October 1990 |
| Belgium | 26 January 1990 | 16 December 1991 | 15 January 1992 |
| Belize | 2 March 1990 | 2 May 1990 | 2 September 1990 |
| Benin | 25 April 1990 | 3 August 1990 | 2 September 1990 |
| Bhutan | 4 June 1990 | 1 August 1990 | 2 September 1990 |
| Bolivia | 8 March 1990 | 26 June 1990 | 2 September 1990 |
| Bosnia and Herzegovina b/ | | | 6 March 1992 |
| Botswana | | 14 March 1995 a/ | 13 April 1995 |
| Brunei Darussalam | | 27 December 1995 a/ | 26 January 1996 |
| Brazil | 26 January 1990 | 24 September 1990 | 24 October 1990 |
| Bulgaria | 31 May 1990 | 3 June 1991 | 3 July 1991 |
| Burkina Faso | 26 January 1990 | 31 August 1990 | 30 September 1990 |
| Burundi | 8 May 1990 | 19 October 1990 | 18 November 1990 |
| Cambodia | 22 September 1992 | 15 October 1992 | 14 November 1992 |
| Cameroon | 25 September 1990 | 11 January 1993 | 10 February 1993 |

| State | Date of signature | Date of receipt of instrument of ratification/ accession a/ | Date of entry into force |
|---|---|---|---|
| Canada | 28 May 1990 | 13 December 1991 | 12 January 1992 |
| Cape Verde | | 4 June 1992 a/ | 4 July 1992 |
| Central African Republic | 30 July 1990 | 23 April 1992 | 23 May 1992 |
| Chad | 30 September 1990 | 2 October 1990 | 1 November 1990 |
| Chile | 26 January 1990 | 13 August 1990 | 12 September 1990 |
| China | 29 August 1990 | 2 March 1992 | 1 April 1992 |
| Colombia | 26 January 1990 | 28 January 1991 | 27 February 1991 |
| Comoros | 30 September 1990 | 22 June 1993 | 21 July 1993 |
| Congo | | 14 October 1993 a/ | 13 November 1993 |
| Costa Rica | 26 January 1990 | 21 August 1990 | 20 September 1990 |
| Côte d'Ivoire | 26 January 1990 | 4 February 1991 | 6 March 1991 |
| Croatia b/ | | | 8 October 1991 |
| Cuba | 26 January 1990 | 21 August 1991 | 20 September 1991 |
| Cyprus | 5 October 1990 | 7 February 1991 | 9 March 1991 |
| Czech Republic b/ | | | 1 January 1993 |
| Democratic People's Republic of Korea | 23 August 1990 | 21 September 1990 | 21 October 1990 |
| Denmark | 26 January 1990 | 19 July 1991 | 18 August 1991 |
| Djibouti | 30 September 1990 | 6 December 1990 | 5 January 1991 |
| Dominica | 26 January 1990 | 13 March 1991 | 12 April 1991 |
| Dominican Republic | 8 August 1990 | 11 June 1991 | 11 July 1991 |
| Ecuador | 26 January 1990 | 23 March 1990 | 2 September 1990 |
| Egypt | 5 February 1990 | 6 July 1990 | 2 September 1990 |
| El Salvador | 26 January 1990 | 10 July 1990 | 2 September 1990 |
| Equatorial Guinea | | 15 June 1992 a/ | 15 July 1992 |
| Eritrea | 20 December 1993 | 3 August 1994 | 2 September 1994 |
| Estonia | | 21 October 1991 a/ | 20 November 1991 |
| Ethiopia | | 14 May 1991 a/ | 13 June 1991 |
| Fiji | 2 July 1993 | 13 August 1993 | 12 September 1993 |
| Finland | 26 January 1990 | 20 June 1991 | 20 July 1991 |
| France | 26 January 1990 | 7 August 1990 | 6 September 1990 |
| Gabon | 26 January 1990 | 9 February 1994 | 11 March 1994 |
| Gambia | 5 February 1990 | 8 August 1990 | 7 September 1990 |
| Georgia | | 2 June 1994 a/ | 2 July 1994 |
| Germany | 26 January 1990 | 6 March 1992 | 5 April 1992 |
| Ghana | 29 January 1990 | 5 February 1990 | 2 September 1990 |

| State | Date of signature | Date of receipt of instrument of ratification/ accession a/ | Date of entry into force |
|---|---|---|---|
| Greece | 26 January 1990 | 11 May 1993 | 10 June 1993 |
| Grenada | 21 February 1990 | 5 November 1990 | 5 December 1990 |
| Guatemala | 26 January 1990 | 6 June 1990 | 2 September 1990 |
| Guinea | | 13 July 1990 a/ | 2 September 1990 |
| Guinea-Bissau | 26 January 1990 | 20 August 1990 | 19 September 1990 |
| Guyana | 30 September 1990 | 14 January 1991 | 13 February 1991 |
| Haiti | 26 January 1990 | 8 June 1995 | 8 July 1995 |
| Holy See | 20 April 1990 | 20 April 1990 | 2 September 1990 |
| Honduras | 31 May 1990 | 10 August 1990 | 9 September 1990 |
| Hungary | 14 March 1990 | 7 October 1991 | 6 November 1991 |
| Iceland | 26 January 1990 | 28 October 1992 | 27 November 1992 |
| India | | 11 December 1992 a/ | 11 January 1993 |
| Indonesia | 26 January 1990 | 5 September 1990 | 5 October 1990 |
| Iran (Islamic Republic of) | 5 September 1991 | 13 July 1994 | 12 August 1994 |
| Iraq | | 15 June 1994 a/ | 15 July 1994 |
| Ireland | 30 September 1990 | 28 September 1992 | 28 October 1992 |
| Israel | 3 July 1990 | 3 October 1991 | 2 November 1991 |
| Italy | 26 January 1990 | 5 September 1991 | 5 October 1991 |
| Jamaica | 26 January 1990 | 14 May 1991 | 13 June 1991 |
| Japan | 21 September 1990 | 22 April 1994 | 22 May 1994 |
| Jordan | 29 August 1990 | 24 May 1991 | 23 June 1991 |
| Kazakstan | 16 February 1994 | 12 August 1994 | 11 September 1994 |
| Kenya | 26 January 1990 | 30 July 1990 | 2 September 1990 |
| Kiribati | | 11 December 1995 a/ | 10 January 1996 |
| Kuwait | 7 June 1990 | 21 October 1991 | 20 November 1991 |
| Kyrgyzstan | | 7 October 1994 | 6 November 1994 |
| Lao People's Democratic Republic | | 8 May 1991 a/ | 7 June 1991 |
| Latvia | | 14 April 1992 a/ | 14 May 1992 |
| Lebanon | 26 January 1990 | 14 May 1991 | 13 June 1991 |
| Lesotho | 21 August 1990 | 10 March 1992 | 9 April 1992 |
| Liechtenstein | 30 September 1990 | 22 December 1995 | 21 January 1996 |
| Liberia | 26 April 1990 | 4 June 1993 | 4 July 1993 |
| Libyan Arab Jamahiriya | | 15 April 1993 a/ | 15 May 199 |
| Lithuania | | 31 January 1992 a/ | 1 March 1992 |
| Luxembourg | 21 March 1990 | 7 March 1994 | 6 April 1994 |

| State | Date of signature | Date of receipt of instrument of ratification/ accession a/ | Date of entry into force |
|---|---|---|---|
| Madagascar | 19 April 1990 | 19 March 1991 | 18 April 1991 |
| Malawi | | 2 January 1991 a/ | 1 February 1991 |
| Malaysia | | 17 February 1995 a/ | 19 March 1995 |
| Maldives | 21 August 1990 | 11 February 1991 | 13 March 1991 |
| Mali | 26 January 1990 | 20 September 1990 | 20 October 1990 |
| Malta | 26 January 1990 | 30 September 1990 | 30 October 1990 |
| Marshall Islands | 14 April 1993 | 4 October 1993 | 3 November 1993 |
| Mauritania | 26 January 1990 | 16 May 1991 | 15 June 1991 |
| Mauritius | | 26 July 1990 a/ | 2 September 1990 |
| Mexico | 26 January 1990 | 21 September 1990 | 21 October 1990 |
| Micronesia (Federated States of) | | 5 May 1993 a/ | 4 June 1993 |
| Monaco | | 21 June 1993 a/ | 21 July 1993 |
| Mongolia | 26 January 1990 | 5 July 1990 | 2 September 1990 |
| Morocco | 26 January 1990 | 21 June 1993 | 21 July 1993 |
| Mozambique | 30 September 1990 | 26 April 1994 | 26 May 1994 |
| Myanmar | | 15 July 1991 a/ | 14 August 1991 |
| Namibia | 26 September 1990 | 30 September 1990 | 30 October 1990 |
| Nauru | | 27 July 1994 a/ | 26 August 1994 |
| Nepal | 26 January 1990 | 14 September 1990 | 14 October 1990 |
| Netherlands | 26 January 1990 | 6 February 1995 | 7 March 1995 |
| New Zealand | 1 October 1990 | 6 April 1993 | 6 May 1993 |
| Nicaragua | 6 February 1990 | 5 October 1990 | 4 November 1990 |
| Niger | 26 January 1990 | 30 September 1990 | 30 October 1990 |
| Nigeria | 26 January 1990 | 19 April 1991 | 19 May 1991 |
| Niue | | 20 December 1995 a/ | 19 January 1996 |
| Norway | 26 January 1990 | 8 January 1991 | 7 February 1991 |
| Pakistan | 20 September 1990 | 12 November 1990 | 12 December 1990 |
| Palau | | 4 August 1995 a/ | 3 September 1995 |
| Panama | 26 January 1990 | 12 December 1990 | 11 January 1991 |
| Papua New Guinea | 30 September 1990 | 1 March 1993 | 31 March 1993 |
| Paraguay | 4 April 1990 | 25 September 1990 | 25 October 1990 |
| Peru | 26 January 1990 | 4 September 1990 | 4 October 1990 |
| Philippines | 26 January 1990 | 21 August 1990 | 20 September 1990 |
| Poland | 26 January 1990 | 7 June 1991 | 7 July 1991 |
| Portugal | 26 January 1990 | 21 September 1990 | 21 October 1990 |

| State | Date of signature | Date of receipt of instrument of ratification/ accession a/ | Date of entry into force |
|---|---|---|---|
| Qatar | 8 December 1992 | 3 April 1995 | 3 May 1995 |
| Republic of Korea | 25 September 1990 | 20 November 1991 | 20 December 1991 |
| Republic of Moldova | | 26 January 1993 a/ | 25 February 1993 |
| Romania | 26 January 1990 | 28 September 1990 | 28 October 1990 |
| Russian Federation | 26 January 1990 | 16 August 1990 | 15 September 1990 |
| Rwanda | 26 January 1990 | 24 January 1991 | 23 February 1991 |
| Saint Kitts and Nevis | 26 January 1990 | 24 July 1990 | 2 September 1990 |
| Saint Lucia | | 16 June 1993 a/ | 16 July 1993 |
| Saint Vincent and the Grenadines | 20 September 1993 | 26 October 1993 | 25 November 1993 |
| Samoa | 30 September 1990 | 29 November 1994 | 29 December 1994 |
| San Marino | | 25 November 1991 a/ | 25 December 1991 |
| Sao Tome and Principe | | 14 May 1991 a/ | 13 June 1991 |
| Saudi Arabia | | 26 January 1996 a/ | 25 February 1996 |
| Senegal | 26 January 1990 | 31 July 1990 | 2 September 1990 |
| Seychelles | | 7 September 1990 a/ | 7 October 1990 |
| Sierra Leone | 13 February 1990 | 18 June 1990 | 2 September 1990 |
| Singapore | | 5 October 1995 a/ | 4 November 1995 |
| Slovakia b/ | | | 1 January 1993 |
| Slovenia b/ | | | 25 June 1991 |
| Solomon Islands | | 10 April 1995 | 10 May 1995 |
| South Africa | 29 January 1993 | 16 June 1995 | 16 July 1995 |
| Spain | 26 January 1990 | 6 December 1990 | 5 January 1991 |
| Sri Lanka | 26 January 1990 | 12 July 1991 | 11 August 1991 |
| Sudan | 24 July 1990 | 3 August 1990 | 2 September 1990 |
| Suriname | 26 January 1990 | 1 March 1993 | 31 March 1993 |
| Swaziland | 22 August 1990 | 7 September 1995 | 6 October 1995 |
| Sweden | 26 January 1990 | 29 June 1990 | 2 September 1990 |
| Switzerland | 1 May 1991 | | |
| Syrian Arab Republic | 18 September 1990 | 15 July 1993 | 14 August 1993 |
| Tajikistan | | 26 October 1993 a/ | 25 November 1993 |
| Thailand | | 27 March 1992 a/ | 26 April 1992 |
| The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia b/ | | | 17 September 1991 |
| Togo | 26 January 1990 | 1 August 1990 | 2 September 1990 |
| Tonga | | 6 November 1995 a/ | 6 December 1995 |

| State | Date of signature | Date of receipt of instrument of ratification/ accession a/ | Date of entry into force |
|---|---|---|---|
| Trinidad and Tobago | 30 September 1990 | 5 December 1991 | 4 January 1992 |
| Tunisia | 26 February 1990 | 30 January 1992 | 29 February 1992 |
| Turkey | 14 September 1990 | 4 April 1995 | 4 May 1995 |
| Turkmenistan | | 20 September 1993 a/ | 19 October 1993 |
| Tuvalu | | 22 September 1995 a/ | 21 October 1995 |
| Uganda | 17 August 1990 | 17 August 1990 | 16 September 1990 |
| Ukraine | 21 February 1991 | 28 August 1991 | 27 September 1991 |
| United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland | 19 April 1990 | 16 December 1991 | 15 January 1992 |
| United Republic of Tanzania | 1 June 1990 | 10 June 1991 | 10 July 1991 |
| United States of America | 16 February 1995 | | |
| Uruguay | 26 January 1990 | 20 November 1990 | 20 December 1990 |
| Uzbekistan | | 29 June 1994 a/ | 29 July 1994 |
| Vanuatu | 30 September 1990 | 7 July 1993 | 6 August 1993 |
| Venezuela | 26 January 1990 | 13 September 1990 | 13 October 1990 |
| Viet Nam | 26 January 1990 | 28 February 1990 | 2 September 1990 |
| Yemen | 13 February 1990 | 1 May 1991 | 31 May 1991 |
| Yugoslavia | 26 January 1990 | 3 January 1991 | 2 February 1991 |
| Zaire | 20 March 1990 | 27 September 1990 | 27 October 1990 |
| Zambia | 30 September 1990 | 5 December 1991 | 5 January 1992 |
| Zimbabwe | 8 March 1990 | 11 September 1990 | 11 October 1990 |

Notes

a/ Accession.

b/ Succession.

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